

MEXICO

- 1. <u>Summer Courses at Mexican Universities</u> To help provide bilingual educators and foreign students in the United States with a systematic look into Mexican language and culture, a group of Mexican Universities have set up a series of courses covering Spanish language and Mexican culture that are programmed for the summer break and regular course periods. The National Association of Universities and Institutions of Higher Education of Mexico (ANUIES) is the coordinator of the program and will link teachers and foreign students to participating institutions for direct assistance.
- 2. Free Textbook Distribution Program The Ministry of Public Education along with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico have establish an annual program of free text book donations to the public libraries, schools and institutions in the United States that provide services to the Mexican community, so that they may be used as support materials, as well as for the teaching of Spanish as a second language. The collections contain 50 books including history, math, Spanish and geography. A letter addressed to the Mexican Consulate should request the donation of these collections. However, the interested institutions are required to pay the costs for the shipping and handling of the collections from the border state to their destination in the United States.
- 3. <u>U.S.-Mexico Teacher Exchange Program</u> The main objectives of the program are (a) to strengthen U.S. teachers' knowledge about the history, culture, values, and traditions of Mexican-origin students in the United States; (b) to encourage on-going communication between U.S. and Mexican teachers so as to share educational experiences; (c) through teacher exchanges, to assist in improving the educational services offered to the Mexican and Mexican descent school population living in the United States.
- 4. <u>Bilingual Training for Teachers in the United States: Immersion Courses</u> The Program for Mexican Communities Abroad in coordination with the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional offers preparatory courses taught by qualified Mexican experts for bilingual teachers in U.S. school districts. The program seeks to support bilingual teachers in improving their Spanish skills, increasing their knowledge of Mexican history and culture, as well as increasing their understanding of the special situation of Mexican and Mexican-American children and youth that have been relocated to the United States.</u> The final goal is to contribute to the teachers' understanding of the cultural experience of the immigrant children for whose education they are responsible. The cost of the courses are \$2,500 for a group of 30 students plus an extra cost for teaching materials, administrative expenses, and, if requested, university credits.
- 5. Academic Transfer for the Binational Migrant Student In order to provide support to Mexican students who study in Mexico and in the United States, as well as for children of Mexican workers who have to return permanently to Mexico, the Ministry or Public Education (SEP) has simplified the requirements for their enrollment in public and private schools and guarantees their acceptance in the schools of their own communities with the Transfer Document for the Binational Migrant Student. The Transfer Document contains academic information on binational migrant students and it is used as a binational report card with educational enrollment information. The Mexican Consulate issues the document to students from 1st to 9th grade.

Contact:

Embassy of Mexico Cultural Affairs Office Tel: (202) 728-1628